

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 TRSE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 L-03 H-02 SCS-03 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FDRE-00

HEW-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 DHA-02 SCA-01

USIA-06 EB-07 /099 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:PKBULLEN/PHA/FDRC:WRDALTON:DPW

APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:ARDAY

AID/NE/MEA:KTEIL

AID/FFP:DSHAUGHNESSY

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TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 250362

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: SWEL, US, LE

SUBJECT:DISASTER RELIEF

REF: (A) BEIRUT 12889; (B) BEIRUT 12686

1. STATE AND AID REPS MET TO REVIEW POSSIBLE FUTURE NEED
FOR DISASTER RELIEF FOR LEBANON SHOULD AMBASSADOR DECLARE
THAT A DISASTER EXISTS. SEE FOREIGN SERVICE DISASTER RE-
LIEF HANDBOOK NO. 8 (2 FAM 060). UPSHOT OF MEETING, CON-
SIDERING ALL BACKGROUND INFORMATION AVAILABLE, WAS MOST
APPROPRIATE PATH FOR US ASSISTANCE WOULD BE THROUGH AN
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION EXPERIENCED IN DISASTER RELIEF
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MANAGEMENT SUCH AS LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES (LICROSS),

ICRC AND/OR WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, WITH UN DISASTER RELIEF ORGANIZATION POSSIBLY ACTING IN A COORDINATING ROLE. SUCH AGENCY WOULD HAVE TO BE ASKED BY GOL TO LAUNCH INTERNATIONAL APPEAL AND COORDINATE DONORS' RESPONSES.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR AGAIN REVIEWING POSSIBLE NON-SECTARIAN AVENUES FOR RELIEF DISTRIBUTION WITHIN LEBANON. WE OF COURSE CONCUR IN CAVEATS EXPRESSED IN YOUR RECENT MESSAGES.

3. IF YOU SHOULD CONCLUDE THAT DISASTER RELIEF IS CALLED FOR, REQUEST FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE BEYOND AMBASSADOR'S \$25,000 FUND DESCRIBED IN HANDBOOK REFERENCE CITED ABOVE, SHOULD BE SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION BY AID FOREIGN DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR (FDRC), IN CONJUNCTION WITH DEPARTMENT AND FOOD FOR PEACE. SUCH ASSISTANCE SHOULD FOCUS ON EMERGENCY PHASE REQUIREMENTS, E.G. EMERGENCY FOODSTUFFS, TEMPORARY SHELTER, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, BLANKETS, TEMPORARY REPAIR OF WATER, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS, ETC. PERMANENT REHABILITATIVE OR RECONSTRUCTION MEASURES CANNOT BE FINANCED FROM THE DISASTER FUND. TO FACILITATE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, FDRC HAS CERTAIN DISASTER RELIEF SUPPLIES IN STOCKPILES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD INCLUDING CAMP DARBY, ITALY, ADJACENT TO PISA.

4. AS YOU KNOW, THERE IS ALREADY INTEREST IN AID TO LEBANON ON PART SOME US PRIVATE GROUPS. CATHOLIC NEAR EAST WELFARE ASSOCIATION (MSGR NOLAN) AND AMERICAN MARONITE GROUP HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH DEPARTMENT ABOUT AID POSSIBILITIES. WE HAVE TOLD THEM THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM GOL AND AMBASSADOR HAS NOT DECLARED EXISTENCE OF DISASTER; WE ARE AWAITING FURTHER INFORMATION ON NEEDS AND SUPPLY SITUATION (PER REF A PARAS 3 AND 5). INGERSOLL

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